U.S. HOUSE PASSES MASSIVE STIMULUS, PG 8

Celebrity Buzz

Distance, time blamed for Harry's breakup
pg 18

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Tories 'on probation'

Coalition collapses as Liberal leader gives support to Conservative budget

Canada 2009
Federal Budget

The Conservative government has accepted a Liberal change to the federal budget that requires periodic parliamentary reports on how its $40-billion economic rescue package is being spent — a move that guarantees the budget's passage and the government's probable survival well into 2010.

With the Liberals' support of the Conservative budget, the would-be coalition with the New Democrats, backed by the Bloc Québécois, collapsed.

It was the latest twist in a political drama that erupted in November and led to the near-defeat of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's minority government.

The Conservatives earned a new lease on government — but only to implement a massive pro-growth spending plan dictated in part by their opposition adversaries and leaving the government with a $64-billion deficit within two years.

The Liberal amendment calls for reports that would require three more mini-fiscal updates. The Conservative government quickly accepted the change, which means the budget could pass as early as Monday.

"We are putting this government on probation," Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff declared yesterday. "We will be watching like hawks to make sure that the investments Canadians need actually reach them."

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff speaks in Ottawa yesterday. Ignatieff said the Liberals will support the budget, ensuring the survival of Harper's minority government. More coverage, pgs 3, 6, 8 & 9.

The motion will require these report cards at the end of March, in June and again in December. Ignatieff said that if the reports reveal that the government is not delivering on its budget pledges, the Liberals will withdraw their support for the Tories in Parliament.

"There remains a problem of trust, there remains a sense that they announce and don't deliver, a sense that they promise and don't get the money out the door," said Ignatieff, adding Harper should "proceed with extreme caution."

Harper did not formally speak on the amendment, but senior government ministers cast the amendment as recognition of what the government already does — account to Canadians for how it spends their money.

Meanwhile, NDP Leader Jack Layton and BQ Leader Gilles Duceppe said the Liberals will wear the Conservatives' budget.

"The coalition is dead, very clearly," said Duceppe.

Layton lashed out at Ignatieff, accusing him of forming a new coalition with the Harper government.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Conditions

- The Liberals want Tories to "provide on-going economic and fiscal updates; detail the actual implementation of the budget; and itemize the actual effects of the budget."
- The tests for approval: Protection of most vulnerable, minimizing of existing job losses, creation of employment opportunities of tomorrow, provision of economic stimulus in a manner fair to all regions, and assurance the deficit is not a burden to future generations or a detriment to economic recovery.
- The Conservatives must also provide details on adjustments or new measures.

ShareYourViews
ottawaletters@metronews.ca

Obama in capital on Feb. 19

OTTAWA Fresh off the pomp and ceremony of his inauguration, U.S. President Barack Obama's Feb. 19 visit to Canada promises to be a more low-key affair.

Canadians are trying to keep the focus for Obama's meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper on work, not ceremony.

U.S. President Barack Obama

While the visit was previously announced, the date was confirmed yesterday by Washington and Ottawa. It will be Obama's first trip abroad as president.

"This is a testament not just to the size of our trading relationship and the closeness of our alliance, but also the strength of our friendship," Harper said.

Obama's office provided few details but said the focus will likely be the sagging economy.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Food pg 13

Relax while cooking chili

Metro Homes pg 12

Repeating patterns

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Info sessions for breast cancer walk being held in February
Organizers of this June's Weekend to End Breast Cancer are hosting several information sessions next month. The walk, which benefits the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, drew 1,000 participants last year. For orientation locations, call (613) 722-7224. METRO OTTAWA

Local

Deception at exhibition

The Canadian War Museum has announced an upcoming exhibition, Camouflage, which starts June 4. The exhibition explores the military art of concealment and deception, both as battlefield necessity and as artistic and commercial inspiration. It covers everything from hand-painted dummy heads to sophisticated computer-generated patterns used by today's militaries. The exhibit runs through Jan. 2, 2010. METRO OTTAWA

Feds call emergency session on strike

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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Ottawa
OC Transpo Strike

Federal politicians will debate taking action to end Ottawa's transit strike during an emergency session of Parliament at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

The meeting was called at the behest of Ottawa-Vanier Liberal MP Mauril Belanger.

"We want to ratchet up the pressure to make sure that whatever can be done to bring the parties together and solve this thing is done in a fair manner," he said.

Since asking to have the debate, Belanger said there has already been some action happening in that area.

Yesterday afternoon, Labour Minister Rona Ambrose said they could order the 2,300 striking OC Transpo employees back to work.

However, he advised that if Ambrose was serious about bringing legislation forward quickly, she should be consulting MPs from all parties while drafting the legislation.

Rather than force OC Transpo employees back to work, Ottawa Centre NDP MP Paul Dewar urged Ambrose to have the city and the union agree to binding arbitration on the contract while sending the issue of scheduling to a separate process.

In a letter sent to Ambrose yesterday, Dewar wrote that binding arbitration would end the strike immediately.

"Clearly, timely solutions are required to break the logjam. I believe arbitration will be a fair resolution for all involved," wrote Dewar.

City council is now challenging the bargaining team from the Amalgamated Transit Union to return to the table with a new offer after informal negotiations broke down on Tuesday.

"Quite frankly, we've shown a great deal of flexibility over the last 50 days," said Mayor Larry O'Brien. "We have listened very carefully to the requests of the ATU and tried to respond. We want them to come back to the table and indicate where they are flexible."

Transportation

- The reason the debate was scheduled for today was to give staff on Parliament Hill time to make transportation arrangements since the meeting was scheduled outside normal business hours.

Strike Survivor
OC Transpo Strike/Day 51

Casey Van der Grient
City: Ottawa
Occupation: Industry manager with Autodesk software firm

Most years, Casey Van der Grient skates down the Rideau Canal to work and back on nice weather days.

This year, regardless of the cold, he's skated to work to avoid spending hours in traffic.

"Just trying to get into downtown is impossible," he said.

During the strike, he's also been shuttling his daughter back and forth from Carleton University.

"That's 45 minutes to an hour each way, so the strike has definitely affected our household — a lot."

News in brief

CRASH VICTIM Ottawa police have identified the victim in the fatal two-vehicle crash on Charlemagne Boulevard near Bottriel Way on Monday. Fifty-one-year-old Bonnie Bergman of Ottawa was killed when her Honda Civic lost control while travelling west on Charlemagne at 8:05 a.m. The Civic entered the eastbound lane and was hit on the passenger side by an oncoming Ford Windstar. The 62-year-old van driver and his 16-year-old male passenger both received minor injuries. Witnesses contact Det. Dodds at 613-236-1222, ext. 2471.

TAX DEFERRED In an effort to free up cash to help residents and businesses deal with the strike, the City of Ottawa has pushed back the property tax due date to mid-April. Delaying the tax due date by one month is expected to cost the city around $1.3 million in lost revenue from interest. That money is to be taken out of savings made from the strike.

STRIKE After surviving 50 days without buses, it shouldn't be a surprise that the Canadian Industrial Relations Board has determined that transit isn't an essential service, the city solicitor told city council yesterday. METRO OTTAWA

Capital Classic **To the hoop**

ETIENNE RANGER/FOR METRO OTTAWA

University of Ottawa Gee Gees forward David Labentowicz, left, defends against Carleton Ravens forward Kevin McCleery at the Capital Hoops Classic at Scotiabank Place last night. Thousands of people attended despite the storm.

Shovel-ready projects to get push with budget

TRACEY TONG
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Canada 2009
Federal Budget

The federal government has made the right move to stimulate the economy through infrastructure projects, the mayor of Ottawa said yesterday.

In responding to the Tories' federal budget — meant to rebuild the economy — Mayor Larry O'Brien said the investment "will create jobs, grow our economy and leave a lasting legacy on our city."

Larry O'Brien

While O'Brien said earlier this week that infrastructure is a priority for Ottawa, Nancy Schepers, deputy city manager of infrastructure services and community sustainability, said council has directed staff to assemble a list of shovel-ready projects that could be constructed in 2009 and 2010.

Previously suggested projects included Terry Fox Road, the Strandherd-Armstrong Bridge and servicing for Manotick, as well as transit and housing projects, she said.

Premier Dalton McGuinty said he commends the Conservatives for listening to some of the concerns Ontarians have expressed.

"We look forward to continuing to work with our partners now both at the municipal level and federal level in particular when it comes to getting these infrastructure dollars out the door as quickly as possible, getting shovels in the ground, people employed and doing everything that we can to restore confidence in the future of our economy."

Ottawa West-Nepean MPP Jim Watson, minister of housing and municipal affairs, said he was pleased with the budget.

"The federal budget has some promising initiatives, particularly money for affordable housing and infrastructure investments," he said.

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video A Calgary blogger explains "geek porn," online videos of opening new gadgets at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Jack Layton blasts Michael Ignatieff for allowing the budget to pass at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 1, 6, 20, 22, 24 & 46 Bonus 36
Ontario 49: 2, 14, 22, 28, 36 & 47 Bonus 1
Ontario Pick 3: 4 3 5; **Ontario Pick 4:** 2 6 3 0
Encore: 3248037
Daily Keno: 1, 8, 11, 14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 28, 32, 37, 39, 45, 49, 52, 54, 55, 56, 58, 69
These results are not official.

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Public bridge meeting scheduled
Beacon Hill North Community Association is meeting Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. at Colonel By Secondary School to discuss Kettle Island as an interprovincial crossing location. METRO OTTAWA

A recovery success

TRACEY TONG
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Last year, Jim Rouse's life spiralled out of control.

The Ottawa man considered himself a lifetime user of drugs and alcohol, but was able to hold down a job in construction.

When he lost his job — and consequently, his apartment — he began drinking and using drugs heavily. With nowhere else to go, he slept outside at Ottawa's Central Experimental Farm.

"I considered myself an alcoholic and drug addict," said the 45-year-old. "I was about being high all the time. I was a human garbage can."

He learned about a detox program at the Ottawa Mission during a chance run-in with a friend. With nothing left to lose, he decided to attend, and soon entered Lifehouse, a five-month drug and alcohol rehabilitation program.

Rouse, who was one of two men — and the first of 2009 — to graduate from the program yesterday, said he now feels better about himself.

"I feel like I have direction," said Rouse, who shares a house in the community with several fellow graduates and plans on accessing the shelter's post-program counselling for the next 18 months.

"I feel optimistic."

Stories like Rouse's are inspiring, said Troy Thompson, the Ottawa Mission's manager of addiction services.

"It's pretty inspiring that you're seeing people with chronic health issues on the road to recovery, and that we could play a small part in that," he said.

"It's extremely rewarding for us and extremely inspirational for people with similar struggles. The audience at the ceremony is made up of participants from all our programs, and they're seeing living, breathing success stories. There's the idea that 'if it worked for that guy, it could work for me.'"

Since the opening of Lifehouse in January 2002, the program has graduated 60 people. Thompson estimates 60 per cent of them have remained sober to date.

"In other fields, this is barely a pass, but in addiction treatment, this is extremely high," he said. "The norm is about 25 per cent."

2009 graduates

- This year, Ottawa Mission expects to graduate between 10 and 15 people from the program.

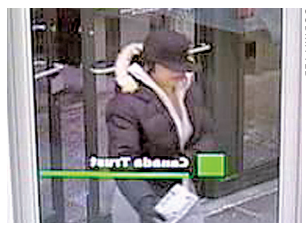
News in brief

KETTLE ISLAND It will be another couple weeks before the city officially responds to the National Capital Commission regarding an interprovincial crossing at Kettle Island. City council was supposed to vote yesterday to reconsider a proposal to include Lower Duck Island in an environmental assessment for a new bridge across the Ottawa River, but that vote was delayed. On Tuesday, the transportation ministries from Quebec and Ontario sent letters to the NCC asking to expand the study to include two other crossing locations, Lower Duck Island and the Gatineau Airport.

METRO OTTAWA

Cops release pic of female bank-robbery suspect

HEIST Ottawa police have released photos of a bank-robbery suspect in hopes the public will help identify a woman who allegedly hit up a bank earlier this week.


SUBMITTED

At about 6 p.m. Monday, a lone woman entered the TD Canada Trust in the 1500 block of Bank Street and produced a note demanding cash.

After being provided an undisclosed amount she fled the area on foot.

There were no injuries.

The suspect is described as a woman between 18 and 22 years old between 5-1 and 5-5, 120 to 130 pounds with dark hair, a darker complexion and brown eyes. She was wearing a black winter jacket with white fur around the hood at the time of the robbery.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Ottawa police robbery section at 613-236-1222, ext. 5116, or Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

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Two charged after teen assaulted

CRIME Two Ottawa men face charges of sexual assault and attempting to procure for prostitution after police investigated an incident that allegedly took place earlier this week.

Police said yesterday a 16-year-old girl was allegedly brought to an undisclosed location in Ottawa and sexually assaulted. The alleged victim and a 15-year-old girl were then taken to a local hotel where attempts were made to engage them in prostitution.

Michael Paul Kerwin, 25, and Daryl Allen, 19, appeared in court yesterday.

Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477. METRO OTTAWA

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Second coast guard icebreaker gets stuck in ice

After 15 ice-bound hours, 38 passengers on a ferry from Îles de la Madeleine to P.E.I. have landed safely, CBC News Online reports. The coast guard icebreaker Sir William Alexander freed the ferry, but not after first getting stuck in the heavy ice itself. This is the second time in as many days that a coast guard icebreaker has been stuck in ice. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

Groups urge less birth intervention

Medical interventions like caesarian deliveries shouldn't be routine for low-risk pregnancies, several Canadian medical groups said in a new policy statement yesterday. The statement called for the promotion of normal childbirth when labour and birth are progressing normally. The statement urged doctors to resort to caesarean sections, among other interventions, only when there is a valid, evidence-based reason. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The coalition is dead

Duceppe pulls plug on Liberal-NDP deal

A controversial political figure — remembered for its "extraordinary work" — has died.

Shed a tear for the NDP-Liberal coalition.

This rare political animal, born in a splash of controversy and daring died a quiet, merciful death yesterday, put down by one of its creators, who figured it had outlived its usefulness.

The death was greeted with a mix of mourning and indifference on Parliament Hill, the very place where it entered the world in a surprise birth just a month and a half ago.

The coalition is survived by warring siblings and is predeceased by Stéphane Dion, one of its founders.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, never a fan of the coalition he inherited from Dion, was first to hint at its fate yesterday when he delivered a kind eulogy without pronouncing the union formally deceased.

"I come out of this experience with the sense that we have changed Canadian politics." Michael Ignatieff

"The coalition has accomplished, I think, extraordinary work. It has forced a reckless ... prime minister to think again, to jettison the partisan my-way-or-the-highway style of leadership," Ignatieff said.

"I come out of this experience with the sense that we have changed Canadian politics," he said.

It was left to Bloc Quebecois Gilles Duceppe to fill in the death certificate.

"The coalition is dead. It's finished. It's over," Duceppe declared bluntly.

Only NDP Leader Jack Layton betrayed any anger or bitterness yesterday, blaming Ignatieff for not following through on the coalition's grand strategy to replace the Conservatives.

"We have a new coalition now on Parliament Hill. It's a coalition between Mr. Harper and Mr. Ignatieff," Layton said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Budget **Getting to work**

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper uses a nail gun while touring a home undergoing renovations yesterday in Ottawa. Harper attended the photo opportunity after the Tory budget, released Tuesday, announced tax breaks for home renovation projects.

Spending cuts to bump cabinet officials to coach

Canada 2009 Federal **Budget**

POLITICS If you can still afford to travel by air, keep an eye out for the federal Tory cabinet. They'll be the ones at the back of the plane.

In the face of global recession and huge national deficits, the government is eyeing cost savings that could cause turbulence in the jet-set lives of politicians, top bureaucrats, and political appointees.

Measures in the budget would bump cabinet ministers, political staff and senior civil servants from their business-class seats on flights of less than two hours and freeze spending at 2008 levels for all travel, lunches and hospitality.

Ottawa vowed to "rein in" departmental spending after the last election, but the limitations could come as a shock for cabinet ministers accustomed to the executive treatment.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, for example, charged taxpayers $746.43 for a 45-minute flight from Ottawa to Montreal last October. It costs about half that price to travel coach on Air Canada. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SURVEY A recent opinion survey on professions reveals that, given the choice, more people would marry a plumber than a movie star. Synovate surveyed 1,000 Canadians and found that, based on profession, 15 per cent would choose a doctor or a nurse as a spouse, nine per cent would choose a worker from the sciences or trades people, while only four per cent would choose to marry an actor.

BUDGET Hailing Stephen Harper as the "Prime Minister who actually delivered" for Ontario, Premier Dalton McGuinty said the federal budget is just the tonic for the province's ailing economy. In his first public statement on Tuesday's Conservative budget, the Liberal McGuinty crowed that it was a victory for his four-year-old "fairness" crusade for Ontario.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Vote on back-to-work legislation expected today

QUEEN'S PARK The provincial government will force an end this morning to the three-month strike at York University and allow 45,000 students to resume classes Monday with the expected passage of legislation ordering 3,340 contract professors back to work.

Today's vote on Bill 145 comes on the fifth day of an emergency session of the Ontario legislature to introduce back-to-work legislation.

"We have reached a point that the only way they can get back to class is if we simply allow this to go ahead," said CUPE spokesperson Tyler Shipley.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Withdrawn

- The striking contract workers, members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3903, withdrew their threat of a court challenge to the legislation late yesterday, removing a potential obstacle to the resumption of classes.

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Dearest Ottawa, January, 2009

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We've been through a lot together - dear Queen Victoria passed on, we experienced two World Wars and weathered through a Great Depression. The Ottawa Senators played their first game, women earned the right to vote and personal computers became household necessities.

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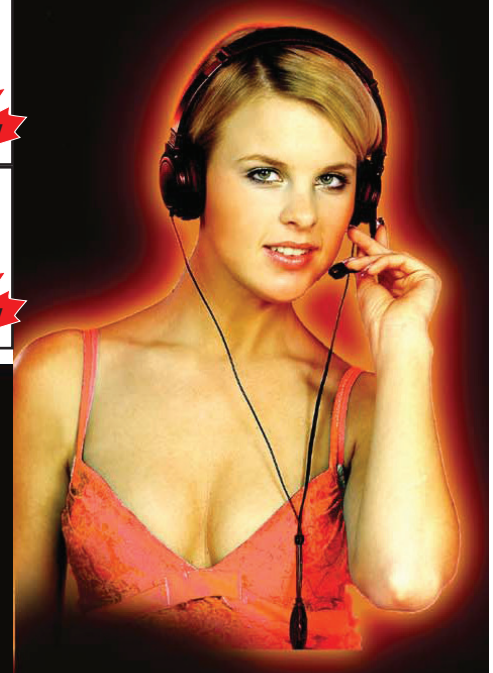

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Venice's public toilets going digital

Venice is launching an online service that lets visitors pay for access to public toilets with a mouse click. Instead of paying the current one-euro fee to get into a public bathroom, tourists who think ahead can get one week or day passes to the bathrooms online. Visitors can pay 7 euros online for 10 toilet visits over 5 days in high season, and 5 euros in the low tourist season. REUTERS

World/Business

House passes $825B bailout

U.S. President Barack Obama scored his first major legislative victory yesterday with passage of an $819-billion US economic stimulus package by a sharply divided House on a 244-188 vote.

Obama, who took office eight days ago, was denied, at least for now, his goal of bipartisanship. Every Republican who voted opposed the landmark bill, complaining it contained too much new spending and not enough tax cuts.

All but 11 of Obama's fellow Democrats in the House supported the bill to combat the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The Senate begins debate next week.

On his first visit to the Capitol as president Tuesday, Obama failed to ease Republican concerns the package included too little in tax cuts, $275 billion, and too much in spending, $550 billion. The Senate is expected to approve a similar version of the bill costing $887 billion.

House Democrats rejected Republican efforts to strip out the new spending and instead approve a package essentially restricted to about $478 billion in tax cuts. REUTERS

Extra spending

- The new spending in the Democrat-approved package includes money to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, and upgrade health care and schools.

Israeli aircraft strike Gaza after militants fire rocket

VIOLENCE Israeli warplanes bombed a weapons production facility in Gaza yesterday after militants fired a rocket at Israel, in violence that defied the efforts of a visiting U.S. peace envoy to reinforce a ceasefire.

There were no reports of injuries from the predawn Israeli strike in the town of Rafah, along Gaza's border with Egypt. Witnesses and Hamas Islamists said a metal foundry was damaged.

Moments earlier, a militant group with links to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement claimed responsibility for firing a rocket at southern Israel late yesterday.

The rocket was the first fired from Gaza since Israel and Hamas called separate ceasefires ending a 22-day Israeli offensive on Jan. 18. It caused no casualties, but Israeli leaders facing a Feb. 10 election in a campaign focused on security concerns, have vowed to respond to rocket salvoes.

Israel has said it will hold Hamas rulers responsible for attacks launched from the coastal territory, and had warned of a stronger response to the killing of a soldier on Tuesday in an explosion by a border fence. REUTERS

Russian military orders soldier to return home from Georgia

TBILISI The Russian army accused Georgia yesterday of blocking the return of a soldier who disappeared from his unit and said he must come back or face prosecution as a deserter.

"Alexander Glukhov must return and continue his service," said Colonel Igor Konashenkov, aide to the commander of Russia's ground forces.

Georgia, crushed by Russia in a brief war in August when it tried to retake its rebel South Ossetia region by force, paraded the soldier on Tuesday.

Glukhov told Reuters in Tbilisi he had asked for asylum, saying conditions with Russian forces in South Ossetia were unbearable.

Moscow maintains the soldier was abducted and that Georgian officials must have forced him into making statements that discredited the Russian military. REUTERS

Brazil **Deforestation protest**

RAIMUNDO PACCO / REUTERS

A Brazilian Indian is shown at a protest against Amazon deforestation at the ninth Social World Forum, which was brought to the city of Belem partly as a way of drawing global attention to the destruction of the Amazon rain forest.

News in brief

IRELAND Relatives of people killed in Northern Ireland's conflicts clashed over a report advising a "recognition payment" to families of paramilitary fighters. More than 3,600 were killed in 30 years of sectarian violence since the 1960s. REUTERS

Business

Ottawa's credit plan skimpy, critics say

Canada 2009 Federal **Budget**

The federal government's clumsy attempt to regulate credit card lending through "skimpy" measures in the budget will do little to beef up consumer protections, critics charged yesterday.

Earlier this week, Conservative Finance Minister Jim Flaherty outlined a handful of proposals to better assist consumers in making "informed decisions" when using credit. But various politicians and some members of the business community say his plan lacks teeth.

Liberal Senator Pierrette Ringuette called Flaherty's proposals an "insult," arguing he should have introduced rules to shield consumers and businesses from rising interest rates and fees. She raised those concerns with the Liberal party, but also urged the Senate yesterday to investigate the industry.

"Consumers need to pay less interest rates to sustain their purchasing power."
Pierrette Ringuette

"Given the current state of our economy, consumers need to pay less interest rates to sustain their purchasing power," Ringuette told senators.

Flaherty's proposals include a new task force on financial literacy, simplifying the language on documents and providing notice of rate and fee changes.

Additionally, the government promised to limit "business practices that are not beneficial to consumers." That could include minimum grace periods on new purchases and changes to debt collection.

MP Dan McTeague, the Liberal Consumer Affairs critic, wants a cap on rates set at 12 per cent above the banks' prime rate. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GDP forecasts too high, IMF says

ECONOMY The International Monetary Fund says Canada's economic recovery will be far less rosy than Ottawa and the central bank are predicting.

The world body yesterday forecasted the economy will grow by 1.6 per cent in 2010, after contracting by 1.2 per cent this year — much lower than the fed's 2.4 per cent growth forecast, and the central bank's prediction for 3.8 per cent growth. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

BANKRUPTCY A casualty of consumers' cutbacks in home improvement, Giant Carpet and Flooring Ltd., has gone bankrupt after 40 years in business. The company had liabilities of $5.2 million and assets of just $535,000, according to court documents.

AIRLINES About 5,000 Air Canada employees belonging to the Canadian Auto Workers union voted 78 per cent against a tentative collective agreement, set to replace the current agreement that expires May 31. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Comment & Views

Comment

Who is this prime minister?

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

Ralph Waldo Emerson famously said that "a foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds." Emerson, the 19th-century American philosopher, thought the better part of wisdom is one's willingness to abandon flawed, mistaken or dated beliefs.

By this measure, Stephen Harper is Emerson's man. He's happy to divest himself of anything. There appears to be nothing — no program, no promise — that he will not jettison if it becomes cumbersome or inconvenient.

If that means remaking yourself ideologically, or becoming a political chameleon, so be it. No one can accuse Harper of much attachment to anything.

The federal budget is the latest in a string of staggering reversals. Only weeks ago, Harper declared that our economy was strong and there was no need for stimulus. And there would be no deficit.

Well, one could say that things changed between now and then. What changed was the government found Keynesian economics when it was faced with defeat. Period.

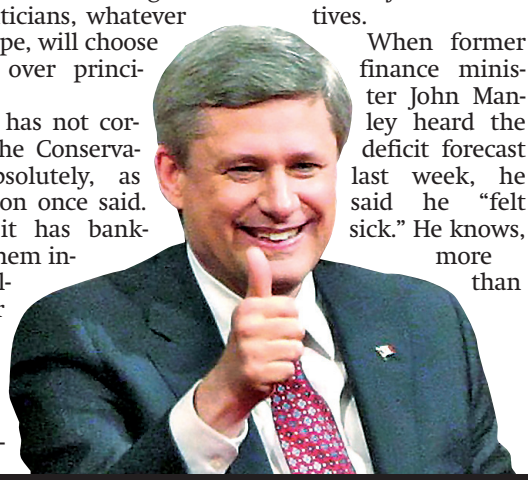
That this deficit comes from a Conservative government led by a conservative economist who once disdained deficits is exquisite. It shows, once again, that politicians, whatever their stripe, will choose survival over principle.

Power has not corrupted the Conservatives absolutely, as Lord Acton once said. Rather, it has bankrupted them intellectually. After a decade of "uniting the right" and plotting a Canadian Conservative majority, they take office and embrace deficit financing and gargantuan spending.

Canada 2009
Federal **Budget**

Breathtaking.

Some might say the Conservatives have become Liberals today, but don't be so sure the Liberals would have been this profligate. It was they who eliminated the deficit inherited from Brian Mulroney's Conservatives.



When former finance minister John Manley heard the deficit forecast last week, he said he "felt sick." He knows, more than most, the pain it took to produce a surplus in the 1990s.

Then again, a government invites a deficit when it cuts the GST and income taxes (which this government did), so it can shrink the size of government (which this government wants), so it can create a Conservative Canada. Or so it thought.

When you want to stay in power, you learn how to trim and tack. Harper is becoming good at this.

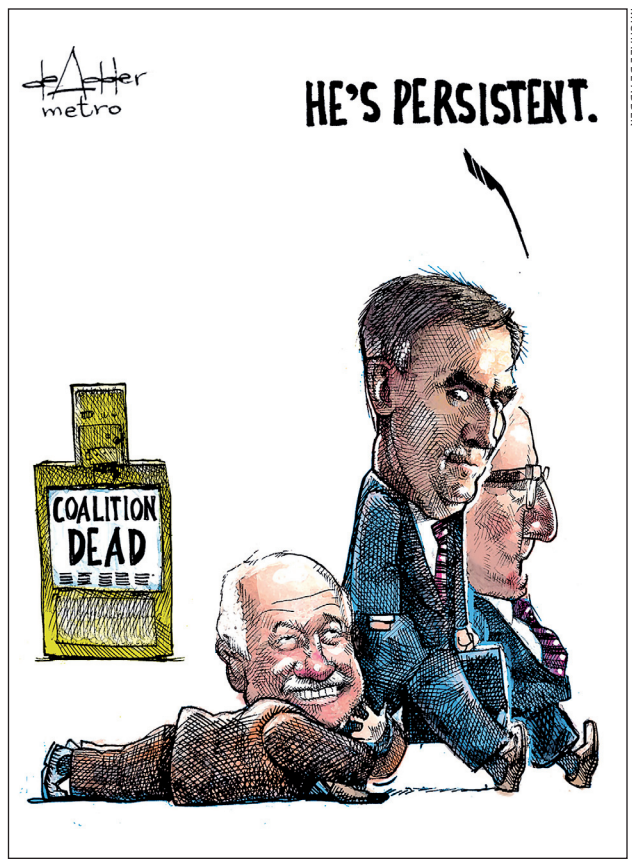
Need a new mandate? Forget the election date you fixed and call one now. Want a Conservative majority in the Senate? Forget term limits for senators.

Want to appoint a new high court justice? Forget those pesky parliamentary hearings. Dislike income trusts? Abolish them.

Want to placate the opposition? Drop plans to kill election subsidies.

Easy come, easy go. My, my, these are faithless folks.

Andrew Cohen, a professor and journalist, is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Budget missed the boat to help ACTRA

Canada 2009
Federal **Budget**

Stephen Waddell

ACTRA

If Tuesday's federal budget was an attempt by the Conservatives to apologize to Canada's culture community for the devastating cuts of the last year, they missed a major cue. Canada's $5-billion film and TV industry is a proven job generator and gives government a lot of bang for every dollar invested. By not making a significant investment in this industry, Conservatives passed on an opportunity to create thousands of well-paying, creative, skilled jobs and, in turn, stimulate Canadian economic growth.

A healthy cultural industry is in everybody's interest — culture not only enriches our lives, it enriches our economy. More people work in culture than work in agriculture, forestry, mining, oil and gas — combined.

Our cultural industries already contribute more than $85 billion — or 7.4 per cent of Canada's real gross domestic product — and more than 1.1 million jobs. ACTRA had presented a number of concrete job-creation ideas in the pre-budget process; unfortunately, the government didn't include any of them in yesterday's budget.

These practical solutions would have fuelled Canada's $5-billion film and TV industry and added to the more than 125,000 full-time jobs our industry creates across Canada:

- Increased long-term funding for the Canadian Television Fund, Telefilm Canada, the CBC and the National Film Board;
- A new fund for new media productions that would come from a levy on the revenues of Internet service providers;
- Increased tax credits to encourage film and TV production across the country.

"Simply put, Canadian performers are surprised the government is passing on such a no-brainer."

We also pitched the idea of re-introducing "income averaging" for tax purposes over a five-year period to provide fair and equitable tax treatment for self-employed Canadians, such as performers. We're pleased to see renewed commitments to the Canadian television fund and new media fund. However, this is basically a status quo budget for our industry and a missed opportunity to use the job-creating power of our industry to its full potential.

Simply put, Canadian performers are surprised the government is passing on such a no-brainer.

Stephen Waddell is National Executive Director of ACTRA, the national association representing over 21,000 professional performers.

Letters

O'Brien and Mercier should step down over transit strike

Mayor Larry O'Brien should fire the head of Transit, Mr. Mercier. Then resign.

They've been penny-wise and pound disastrous for Ottawa. In order to save $3.4 million, they have cost residents and local businesses many times that — and for what? To try to take away from bus drivers the scheduling choices we now learn are not unlike those in other Canadian cities.

Then the O'Brien-Mercier duo claimed it was all for drivers' safety and not for the money.

In the process, these two have managed to display their utter disregard, not only for the working lives of their own transit employees, but for the personal catastrophes foisted upon the working poor, the elderly and students, as well as downtown small business owners.

DIANNE COX, OTTAWA

Ottawa should be riding up the Hill for cycling funding

Mayor Larry O'Brien and city councillors should hop on their bikes and race to Parliament Hill to claim federal infrastructure money for the Ottawa cycling plan. It's badly needed, as council has left the cycling plan severely underfunded.

The City of Ottawa has been working on an official plan for cycling since 2003. In 2005, it called for a budget of $50 million over 20 years. By July 2008, after many delays and consultations, the city decided to cut the plan down to $26 million. Then in December, the final budget allotted less than 35 per cent of the money the cycling plan calls for.

You can sign an online petition aimed at city hall to promote cycling in Ottawa. The petition is found at www.CyclingVisionOttawa.ca.

JULEK MEISSNER, OTTAWA

Metro Online Poll Results

44% SAID YES

If you were an MP, would you vote in favour of the budget?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

56% SAID NO

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaletters@metronews.ca

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Canadian Dimitroff named top NFL exec
A former University of Guelph student has been chosen the NFL's executive of the year by The Sporting News. Thomas Dimitroff, left, led the Atlanta Falcons to the playoffs in his first season as a general manager. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

"Anybody that says we should blow up this organization should get their own bomb and go blow themselves up."

Senators owner Eugene Melnyk during a news conference yesterday, discussing the Sens' subpar season and decline in season-ticket sales. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

NHL Henrik Zetterberg has been signed to the longest contract in Red Wings' history, a 12-year deal that will keep the star forward in Detroit until 2021. The deal is worth slightly more than $72 million US.

NBA Charlotte Bobcats forward Gerald Wallace sustained a collapsed lung and fractured rib during Tuesday's 117-110 double-overtime victory over the Los Angeles Lakers. He remains in hospital. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Melnyk should be more open to explosive devices

TheHockeyNews
Ken Campbell
thehockeynews.com

It's only fitting that Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk was in town earlier this week discussing a Major League Soccer franchise.

The way his team has been scoring lately, it has begun to look like a soccer team.

The Senators entered play last night as the second-lowest scoring team in the NHL, with a paltry 111 goals in 45 games.

What was curious about the whole thing was that Melnyk, at least for public consumption, won't even consider a complete rebuild on the roster, saying that, "You blow up crippled organizations and this is not a crippled organization."

Maybe not, but the Senators certainly aren't getting around the way they did before. This is a team that had Wade Redden, Zdeno Chara and Joe Corvo at different times, but finds itself searching for a puck-moving defenceman.

It has almost no secondary scoring and the primary scoring it has is prone to long stretches of low productivity (read Heatley, Dany). Despite what the organization says, the prospects in its system are nothing to get worked up about and there is no stud waiting in the wings in the minors, juniors, college or Europe.

So, let's see. The present looks bleak for the Senators and the future doesn't look any screaming heck, either. If Melnyk doesn't want to "blow up" his organization, that's his prerogative. But for him to not even consider doing it at this point leaves a lot of people scratching in the hockey industry scratching their heads.

After all, would anyone scorn Melnyk if he decided Bryan Murray was not the man to run this organization? Murray is a terrific coach, but his managing resume leaves something to be desired.

It was Melnyk who ultimately decided to do away with John Muckler as GM and install Murray. And do you remember why? Well, part of the reason was because Muckler didn't get Gary Roberts at the trade deadline a couple of years ago.

Great move that would have been, eh?

There is no disputing the Senators have gone south in a big way since Murray took over running the hockey department. Many of his personnel decisions have gone badly, to the point where "blowing up" this roster might be the only long-term answer.

Even Melnyk has to recognize that by now.

The Hockey News
thn.com

Big Ben and the grocery bagger

NFL
Super Bowl XLIII

MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

To compare Kurt Warner and Ben Roethlisberger as quarterbacks would be tantamount to, say, comparing Michael Bublé and Kanye West as singers.

Their styles are drastically different.

Warner is a proactive QB, a refined reader of defences and a precision passer. Roethlisberger is a reactive QB, an instinctive playmaker who reads defences more effectively after snaps and makes impromptu decisions on the move.

"They're like night and day," former NFL-QB-turned-analyst Terry Bradshaw mentioned. "They do nothing the same — except lead their teams to victories." On Sunday in Tampa Bay, Warner and Roethlisberger will attempt to lead their teams to a Super Bowl victory. Warner, 37, is the QB of the Arizona Cardinals. Roethlisberger, 26, is the Pittsburgh Steelers' QB.

One of the two will garner the second Super Bowl ring of his career. And they'll both likely wind up as Hall of Famers.

And yet, neither was a shoo-in to even play QB in the NFL, let alone be in the Super Bowl and Hall of Fame. Perseverance, though, is what has made both their stories remarkable.

Warner, who could become the first QB in history to lead two franchises to an NFL title, was a training-camp cut by the Green Bay Packers in 1994 before finding jobs in the real world, including one in which he stocked shelves and bagged groceries.

Eventually, he was signed by the Arena Football League and, by 1999, the injury-plagued St. Louis Rams were desperate for a QB and recruited him. He responded by guiding the Rams to a Super Bowl triumph and by capturing the first of his two NFL MVP awards.

While Warner always got to play QB, however, Roethlisberger didn't. At high school in Ohio, Roethlisberger was a receiver until his senior year. The team's coach preferred his son at QB.

And there were obstacles for both Big Ben and Warner during their NFL careers, too.

In June 2006, months after becoming the youngest QB to lead a team to a Super Bowl title, Roethlisberger was in a serious motorcycle crash — minus a helmet.

The damage: a nine-inch head laceration, a broken jaw, a fractured nose and lost teeth. He required seven hours of surgery, and doctors feared he might not be able to play again. Roethlisberger bounced back, though, undaunted.

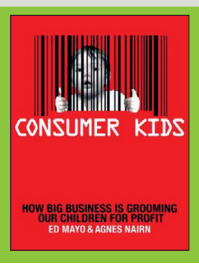
Warner nearly retired before 2007, when the Cards planned to use highly touted draft choice Matt Leinart at QB. But Warner stuck around, despite adversity.

And, as they prepare this week for the 43rd Super Bowl, their legacies in perseverance continue to be written.

Check out Laurence Heinen's Super Bowl blog at metronews.ca/blogs

First-quarter slowdown
According to the federal finance department, during the first quarter of this year Canada's economic activity is expected to slow by nearly five per cent, creating more job losses. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tech Now



Brand ambassadors

Consumer Kids(Constable, $16.03) by Ed Mayo and Agnes Nairn, describes how big brands use research companies who recruit children as young as seven to sell their wares. Child recruits, or "brand ambassadors," are paid with free gadgets, toys, video games or mobile phones after being groomed into perfecting the art of the hard sell by putting pressure on their peers to acquire the latest products. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Online job sites explode with activity

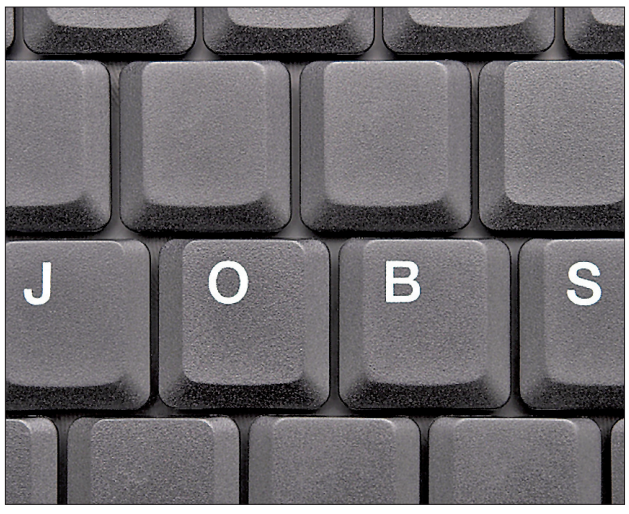
TechNow

Paul Brent

technow@ctv.ca

The global economic situation will likely worsen in the next couple of months before it shows any improvement. This week's federal budget will pump billions into job creation projects. Here is some advice on how to let technology help you find a job.

It wasn't that long ago that want ads in the newspaper were the top public source of job listings. Now it's online job sites that reflect job market activity. It is true that most jobs are never posted but rather filled by people who use their network of contacts to find out about jobs.



NICK SCHLAX

Looking for work? According to U.S.-based ComScore Inc., the fastest growing area of Internet activity is job sites.

In the U.S., ComScore Inc., which tracks all online activity, reported a week ago that the fastest growing area of Internet activity is job sites.

The category has seen an overall rise of 51 per cent in the past year, and the heaviest use was in December as U.S. job cuts swelled. Careerbuilder.com is the top American site.

Workopolis.com has become the number one site in Canada with a huge database of jobs. It and the other big sites also provide advice on job hunting, resume writing etc.

Monster.ca is another big site. Jobs.gc.ca gives you a listing of federal government jobs. Jobserve.ca breaks out Ottawa jobs.

Right now, Techjobsottawa.com lists nearly 1,000 jobs in Ottawa's tech sector. That's the second highest number of jobs in a Canadian city, topped only by Toronto.

Kevin Phu, vice-president at JobArrow.com, which runs the TechJobs site says the number of paid jobs has declined 30 per cent in the past six months.

The hot jobs are software developers (web and desktop apps), database architects, systems administrators and project and product managers.

He says online sites can tell who is hiring and then combine that with networking and perhaps a recruiting agency.

If you manage to get a job interview, a survey last week from Robert Half Technology, which places IT workers, says it still matters what you wear and how you look. They surveyed nearly 300 CIOs who said:

- Over 40 per cent expect to see someone wear a skirt and blouse or jacket and pants.
- Nearly 30 per cent expect a suit.
- Over 20 per cent accept khaki pants and collared shirt.
- But only three per cent would accept jeans and a golf shirt.

Website of the week:
pogo.com

Dozens of online games to play for free by paying a yearly fee. Play all the games without ads.

This Sunday:

CTV News is pre-empted this Sunday at 6 p.m. to carry live coverage of the Super Bowl.

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Metro Homes

Rent out the cottage

Cottage Life has launched a new website called Cottageliferentals.com and it boasts a directory of hundreds of cottage listings giving renters an opportunity to search for waterfront properties across Canada.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

See the pattern?

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz
metronews.ca/homescape

I grew up in a house full of patterns. Pattern upon pattern upon pattern. The wallpaper was patterned, the carpet was patterned and the upholstery was patterned. I had to warn friends before they came to visit, so they wouldn't feel dizzy or disoriented.

Don't get me wrong, I'm very fond of my mom and dad's decor style. It's very much them. They love patterns, and why not?

Using patterns adds excitement and movement to a decor scheme. Let's face it, solid colours on their own are kind of dull. Using one pattern with solids is a little more interesting. But a series of effectively matched patterns can truly change an ordinary room into one that is spectacular.

But combining patterns can be tricky — it's always a bit of a balancing act. The bottom line when it comes to using several patterns together is to avoid overwhelming with colour, scale, or line.

First of all, use small doses of pattern rather than splashing them across large surfaces like walls, or carpeting or flooring. Instead, think in terms of toss cushions or cushion covers, throws, lampshades and smaller rugs. Or using a boldly patterned wallpaper on one focal wall, rather than on all four of them.

"Using patterns adds excitement and movement to a decor scheme. Let's face it, solid colours on their own are kind of dull."

People often choose a "quieter" or less dramatic pattern or a solid for large pieces of upholstered furniture, like a large sofa, for example. A more dramatic print can be a perfect choice for a smaller armchair, for example. It will be a focal point, a "punch" of pattern in your room, but it will not overwhelm.

Patterns come in several different categories, such as florals, botanical patterns such as leaves, vines or trees, stripes, checks or plaids, and abstract patterns of various styles. Also popular nowadays are the reinterpreted "new" traditional patterns, such as fleur-de-lis, toile, or harlequin.

In terms of style, botanical patterns tend to work well in a space with a lot of emphasis on natural elements, like stone, wood and subdued earth tones. Other types of patterns such as florals, stripes or checks can be very flexible depending on the type of rendering it receives, working well in both traditional and contemporary settings. What is important is mixing the patterns effectively, and that means you must carefully consider scale and colour as well as style.

When you combine patterns, one simple rule is to use patterns with different sizes or scales. For example, a small pattern such as a little check will work well with a large floral pattern. Or a large striped pattern will work with a medium-sized floral pattern. Do not use several pieces with similarly-sized patterns — larger patterns will compete and smaller patterns will turn to mush.

In terms of colour, stay within a three-colour palette for your main colours. That means your walls, upholstered furniture and drapery should relate to each other. The main colours in the patterns should repeat in the other patterns, although they may each contain differently-coloured accents. Use fabric swatches to check your combinations.

When you think you've got it, congratulations! But keep looking out for the reaction of visitors. If they appear to get dizzy or disoriented when they enter your house, you may have to reconsider your patterns combinations and adjust the mix.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

KEITH MILLER PHOTO

To combine bold patterns successfully, keep to a palette of no more than three colours and use various sizes of patterns. This example uses only black-and-white to pull together Colada wallpaper by Umbra/Graham & Brown, grahamandbrown.com.

KEITH MILLER PHOTO

Here, left, a graphic wallpaper and dramatic cushion are pulled together by rose motifs. But remember, if you're decorating with patterns, not to mix and match too many different patterns together (as seen in the picture on the right).

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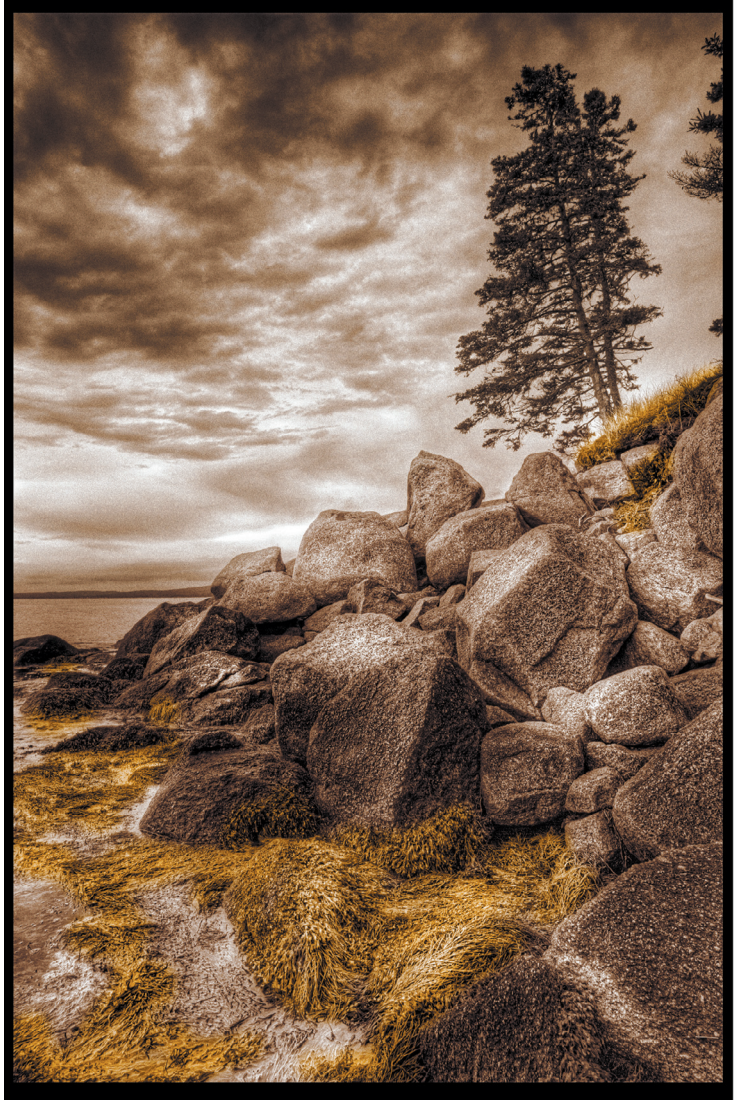

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Canadians consume, on average, more than six teaspoons of added sugar in the morning, which is half the World Health Organization's daily maximum estimate of 12 teaspoons a day. The results come from a national survey commissioned by SPLENDA® Brand Sweetener that looked into Canadians' morning eating habits. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

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Metro News Services

For more

The Garlic Duo has a five-year warranty and is dishwasher-safe. It comes in blue, green or red and has a suggested retail price of $24.99. Visit trudeau.ca for more.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

LiquidAssets

Peter Rockwell

liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Down south

While I've gone to a lot of far out places to wet my whistle the furthest so far has got to be South Africa. With a layover in London my trip last fall to the Western Cape took over thirty hours, but it was worth it. Both the shiraz and sauvignon blanc grapes have surpassed old school pinotage in popularity.

Take **KWV's 2006 Roodeberg Red ($12.95 - $15.99)**. Though the brand is no spring chicken (it recently celebrated it's 50th vintage) its rustic, big-fruited marriage of earth, smoke, spice and chocolate has influenced a whole new wave of ingenious South African blends like **Fairview Cellars' 2006 Goats do Roam Red ($12.95 - $15.99)**.

The Goats' shiraz-led mix of six grapes shows off some nice juicy red berry fruit capped-off by a light candied finish that reminded me a bit of cherry Nibs.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

Fill up a super bowl

À la carte

Barb Holland

Metro Food Writer

The flavour improves overnight, so if time permits, consider making it a day or two ahead and reheat in slow cooker. Serve with lots of crusty bread and cold beer.

If you'd rather be in front of the TV watching the big game than in the kitchen, here's a hearty beef chili that makes good use of your slow cooker for a hassle-free supper. The flavour improves overnight, so if time permits, consider making it a day or two ahead and reheat in slow cooker. Serve with lots of crusty bread and cold beer.

Chipotles are dried smoked jalapeno peppers in a spicy tomato vinegar sauce (adobo sauce). They add a wonderfully rich, smoky flavour. Purée the entire can, including sauce, until smooth. You won't need the entire can, so freeze the remaining in a resealable bag or freezer container for another use, such as my Cranberry Chipotle Glazed Meatballs at metronews.ca/alacarte (Nov. 27, 2008). For another game plan for super bowl supper, try Pulled Pork (Oct. 23, 2008).

Hearty Beef Chili

If you have a large crowd and a large slow cooker, double the recipe. If you like kidney beans in chili, add a can of drained beans during the last hour. Makes six servings.

INGREDIENTS:

NFL
Super Bowl
XLIII

- 2 lb (1 kg) stewing beef
- 1-2 tbsp (15 to 30 ml) vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 1 red or green pepper, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chili powder
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each salt and pepper
- 19 oz (540 ml) can stewed or diced tomatoes
- 1-2 tbsp (15 to 30 ml) puréed chipotle peppers in adobe sauce or 1 tsp (5 ml) hot pepper flakes
- 19 oz (540 ml) can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed (optional)

METHOD:

Trim any fat off meat and cut into chunks, if necessary. In a large skillet, heat 1 tbsp (15 mL) oil over medium-high heat. Brown meat in batches and transfer to slow cooker.

Add a little more oil to skillet and sauté onion, pepper and garlic until lightly softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in flour, chili powder, cumin, salt and pepper. Add tomatoes and puréed chipotle peppers, bring to a simmer. Pour sauce over beef in slow cooker. Stir well, cover and cook on low for 8 to 10 hours or until meat is tender. If adding beans, add one hour before end of cooking.

Tip: For stove-top preparation: Prepare as above, increasing the liquid to cover the meat in a large Dutch oven or saucepan (beef broth, more tomatoes or beer). Bring to a simmer, reduce heat and cook, covered for 1-1/2 to 2 hours or until meat is tender. Stir occasionally. Add beans for last 20 minutes.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

new toy

Pocket Cocktails is available for iPhone and iPod Touch.

That a bartender in your pocket?

TECHNOLOGY Pocket Cocktails, a new iPhone application, offers a fun twist to the traditional cocktail hour.

Pocket Cocktails is the newest application of its kind: Unlike other bartending and cocktail applications that are mostly text-based, Pocket Cocktails uses large, high resolution pictures. It also has a fun "shaker" feature that selects cocktails at random. This random mode lets iPhone users shake the phone to get a random drink image, recipe and ingredient list all from an e-bartender.

While serving up the drink, the iPhone spits out a colorful collection of shaker noises and catchy phrases adding a fun spin on the experience.

Pocket Cocktails is available for 99 cents at Apple's iPhone application store, iTunes or at pocketcocktails.com. Visit pocketcocktails.com for a video overview.

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Armani, Dolce & Gabbana in a tiff over trousers
Italy's top designers are squabbling over a pair of padded trousers, with Giorgio Armani accusing Dolce & Gabbana of copying him and the duo in turn saying the doyen of fashion has nothing to teach them. REUTERS

Style

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EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Luxury shoes shine

Metallics, snakeskin prints and earth hues adorn '09 shoes

JENNIFER YANG
for Metro Canada

Boom or bust, women's shoes have a knack for staying well-heeled, even in the most recessionary of times.

This spring is no exception and for anyone wondering where all the wealth has gone, look no further than a shoe-lover's feet.

"Women love shoes and it's that one item that's an attainable luxury," says Canadian designer David Dixon. "What's that saying? 'When the going gets tough, they go shoe shopping?'"

Thankfully, designers aren't subscribing to the recessionary mood and this spring, they're trotting out shoes in luxe, lustrous and bejeweled. In Dixon's own line, there's no shortage of rhinestone-studded straps, rich hues and earth tones paired with brushed metallics.

"There is a fantasy to it, and I think it is a part of the escapism," he says.

While metallics are still popular, one of the biggest materials for 2009 is of the serpentine variety and city dwellers better get used to seeing snake on the pavement.

"With the economy and the way things are going right now, the type of purchase that will be strong this summer is something neutral that would go with a lot of things."
Julia Brownstein, senior buyer for Browns

"Natural snake, black and white snake, metallic snakes… it's a very rich-looking shoe," explains Julia Brownstein, senior buyer for Browns. "When you do a metallic snake, right away it looks very rich and expensive and it's something you can wear day and night."

With April showers also come lace and flowers, and feet are getting romanced with satin, bows and lacy adornments. As for colours, cobalt and navys are cropping up alongside purples, greens and oranges, as is the classic nude shoe.

"With the economy and the way things are going right now, the type of purchase that will be strong this summer is something neutral that would go with a lot of things," says Brownstein.

But perhaps the biggest shoe of spring is last year's winner, the gladiator, both in sandal and stiletto. Having fought its way into a second round on the runways, the Greco-Roman shoe has re-emerged a bit more refined.

"It really started last year with the basic up-the-leg traditional gladiator, but now a lot of designers are doing it on a platform," says Richard Markowitz, buyer for Davids. "Through the gladiator shoe, you're also getting a more strappy look and the birdcage look."

Heels have undergone some interesting treatments this spring, like tapered points or creative detailing, but heights are nowhere as lofty as last year.

"That has to do in part with the economy," Markowitz says. "People want something a little more fashionable, something they can wear a couple of times and not just once."

Faux leather Sweetheart Mary Jane Pump, Payless, $60.

Michael Kors metallic sandal, Browns, $178.

Brown snakeskin leather sandals, Feet First, $89.99 (In stores May).

Mixed metallic gladiator sandal, Gap, $49.50.

Christian Louboutin gladiator shoe, Davids, $995.

GlobalStyle

Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle and check out her blog at kenyastyle.com

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Who Do You Think You Are?
In a new genealogical documentary series, stars including Sarah Jessica Parker, Lisa Kudrow and Susan Surandon will find out just whom they are related to. The actresses will appear in NBC's Who Do You Think You Are? **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Entertainment

Juno gig

CTV has announced that Sarah McLachlan is the first artist slated to perform live on the Juno Awards broadcast on March 29.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

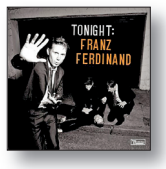
Franz Ferdinand returns Tonight

SONY MUISC PHOTO

Scottish band Franz Ferdinand throw club beats and electronica sounds in with their familiar disco-rock style on the groups latest album Tonight, which was released yesterday.

Franz **Ferdinand**

Album: Tonight
Label: Domino/Sony
Rating: ●●●●



NO MATTER HOW badly fans want their favourite groups to remain consistent, there comes a time when even the most successful acts need to change things up. On Franz Ferdinand's third disc the band takes that leap to the next level, throwing club beats and electronica sounds in with their familiar disco-rock style. Though some fans might not make it through the nearly eight minute Lucid Dreams, the new Franz is definitely improved. Fortunately the band hasn't messed with their formula too much — No You Girls is one of the best dance rock tunes in their oeuvre.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Music**Reviews**
music@metronews.ca

Nickel **Eye**

Album: The Time Of The Assassins
Label: Rykodisc
Rating: ●●½

THE DOWN TIME between Strokes records affords an opportunity for bassist Nikolai Fraiture to try his hand at a solo project. The stripped-down acoustic folk-rock a la Dylan and Neil Young complements his lyrical explorations as a travel-happy dropout. But like those wandering years, Fraiture has yet to find his footing. And his monotone, nasal vocals (think Lou Reed meets Leonard Cohen) and oft-repetitive arrangements often drag to the point of grating.

Ian Nathanson/for Metro Canada

In-Flight **Safety**

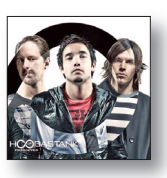
Album: We Are An Empire, My Dear
Label: This Is Night/Outside
Rating: ●●●½

THERE ARE FAR too many Coldplay and U2 wannabes in Britain without adding to the list from Canada. Unfortunately, In-Flight Safety forces the comparison to the British rock giants on Big White Elephant, the showcase tune on this album. We could probably excuse the anthemic keyboards and rhythm piercing guitars, but John Mullane's reaching vocals are just too close to Chris Martin's doe-like mews. Fortunately, it's not all like that. The band hits the mark on the very next track, Model Homes, and there are flashes of East Coast indie brilliance throughout.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Hoobastank

Album: For(N)ever
Label: Island/Universal
Rating: ●



AT LAST, A band that truly is as bad as its name. Hoobastank had a treacly hit called The Reason a few years back that was played a few million times too many. We should not forgive those who for some unexplainable reason supported the band back then. It is because of them that Hoobastank was allowed to record two more albums with massive big label backing. Those wretched Hoobastank fans should be locked into a dark room and forced to listen to this sorry excuse for rock 'n' roll until their emo forelocks turn gray and their skinny jeans throttle their thighs. We know who you are. We're coming to get you.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Joanna **Chapman-Smith**

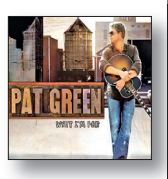
Album: Contraries
Label: Woundup Records
Rating: ●●●

ACCORDIONS CAN BE brandished as sonic weapons, sitting heavy and poised for raucous, foot-stomping mayhem. Not so for Joanna Chapman-Smith. Jazzy, soulful vocals dominate Chapman-Smith's "Canadian ethnic folk" — a mellow collection of folksy tunes that also features clarinet, piano, stand-up bass, scattered percussion flourishes, whistling and even an a capella duet (Body Language). Autobiographical stories like Carnival Song and Between the Mind shine over Chapman-Smith's sparse arrangements and restrained instrumentation. The resulting album plays more like a summertime porch lullaby than a gypsy punk party.

Rob McMahon/for Metro Canada

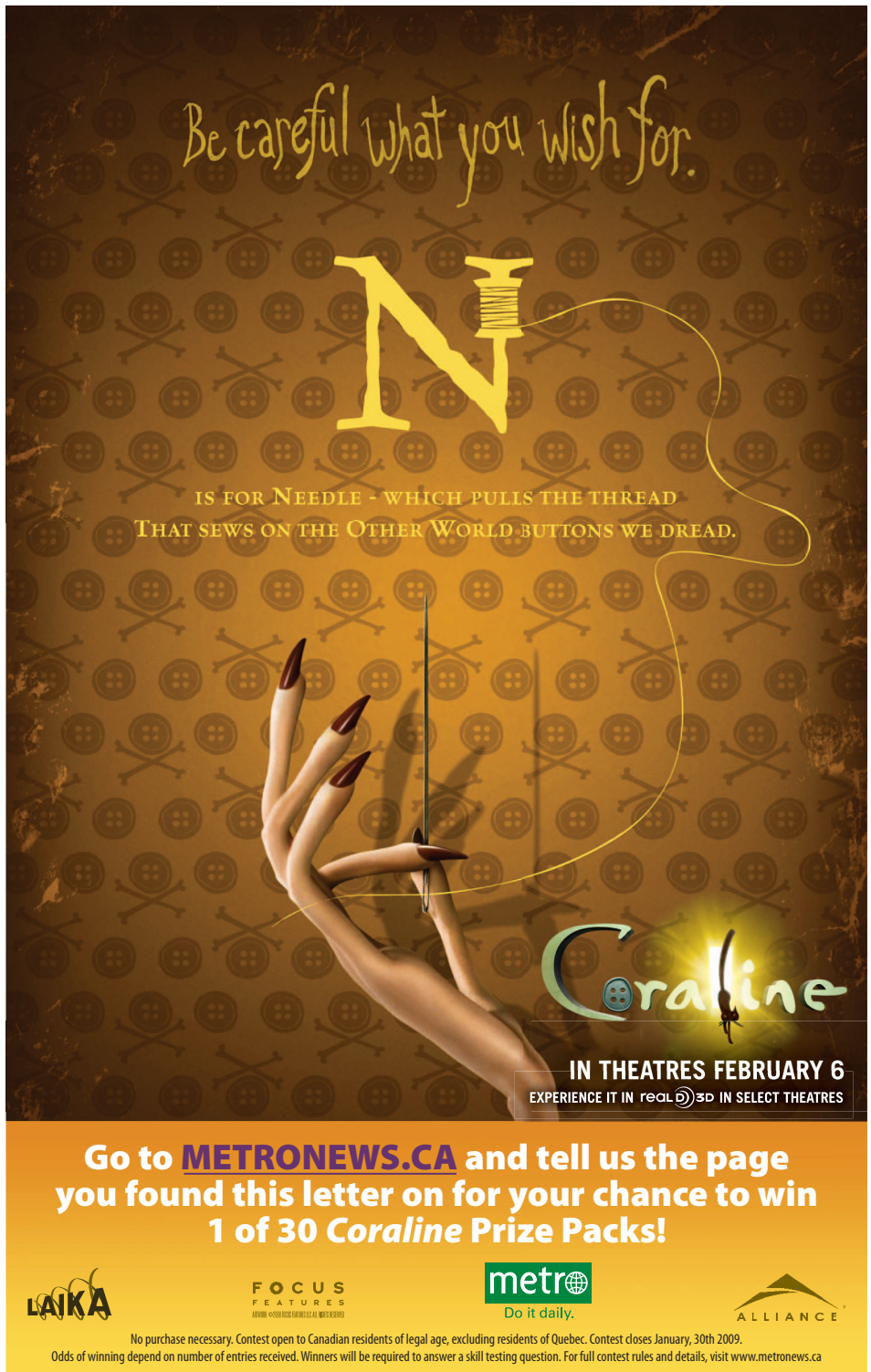
Pat **Green**

Album: What I'm For
Label: Sony
Rating: ●●●



PAT GREEN WAS best as an outsider from Texas knocking on Nashville's doors, respected by the star-making machinery but never fully accepted. Oh, but the yearnings of stardom are strong. Especially when fellow men-without-cowboy-hats like Keith Urban and Dierks Bentley are hitting it big playing guitar heavy country rock. With What I'm For, Green takes a stab at stardom, conceding just enough to the mainstream 'new country' to guarantee airplay. At times, it may be a tad too much though. On the opening track, Footsteps Of Our Fathers, Green sings "let's rip a page out of the Hank Williams' hymnal." Hopefully, Green isn't closing the book on Hank.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada



Vampire actor plays painter

Twilight star Robert Pattinson can't always play a vampire heartthrob. In his next movie, Little Ashes, set in 1922 and described by Variety as an "arty Bohemian romp," the actor plays Salvador Dalí as a young man. **PEOPLE.COM**

Most memorable halftimes

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada

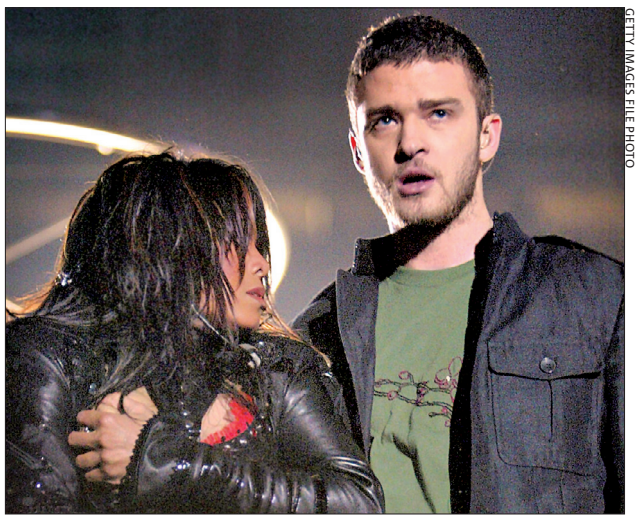
It's as old — and often as overhyped and controversial — as the Super Bowl itself.

Yet what millions upon millions view as that entertaining diversion between the NFL championship's second and third quarters took years to find its stride.

Since the game's 1967 inception, the likes of American college marching bands, drill teams, incarnations of motivational singing troupe Up With People and the odd vocal act (Chubby Checker, Carol Channing) typically filled a 15-minute average time slot.

By the 1990s, a directional change and barking orders to "go big-name" led to bringing in more established acts from country music, R&B, pop and rock.

The Super Bowl halftime show also affords a great excuse to go overboard on stage presentation and excessive stars-and-stripes patriotism. So it might not surprise anyone if this year's halftime act, Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band, happens to dole out a rendition of Born in the U.S.A. to get the crowd at Tampa, Fla.'s Raymond James Stadium all fired up.



GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Janet Jackson, left, and Justin Timberlake set off a firestorm of complaints, a $500,000 US fine for CBS and worldwide talk of the so-called "wardrobe malfunction" at Super Bowl XXXVIII.

Top Super Bowl halftime highlights:

- **5. Michael Jackson, Super Bowl XXVIII, 1993:** The King of Pop singing Heal the World accompanied by a choir of 3,500 Los Angeles-area children.
- **4. Aerosmith, 'N Sync, Britney Spears, Mary J. Blige, Nelly, Super Bowl XXV, 2001:** A bridging of two generations: Veteran rockers Aerosmith get down with superstar popsters 'N Sync and Britney getting their chance to warble the rapid-fire lyrics of the mid-'70s classic, Walk This Way.
- **3. U2, Super Bowl XXVI, 2002:** Bono's typical frontman showmanship wasn't the star of this performance. Instead, a banner that scrolled the names of the 3,000 men and women who died during the 9/11 attacks just months before was enough to tug at the collective heartstrings.
- **2. Prince, Super Bowl XLI, 2007:** Even with a controversial silhouette of a revealing pose, His Royal Purpleness let loose a top-notch 12-minute set of his classics all capped by a rain-soaked Purple Rain complete with blistering guitar solos.
- **1. Jessica Simpson, Nelly, P. Diddy, Kid Rock, Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, Super Bowl XXXVIII, 2004:** A.k.a. Nipplegate. Those final few seconds of J.T. opening a piece of Janet's clothing to reveal a star-shaped shield over her right nipple was enough to set off a firestorm of complaints, a $500,000 US fine to CBS and worldwide talk of the so-called "wardrobe malfunction." All of this placed the Super Bowl under the FCC's watchful eye, prompting a switch to safer, family-approved rock acts.

NFL
Super Bowl XLIII

The Oprah paper

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

FAT LIKE ME: Like NASCAR, Heroes and MTV "reality" shows like The Hills and The City, Oprah Winfrey is more interesting to write about than actually watch. This would explain the massive essay on Oprah's latest crisis of self-image published this week in the New York Post.

At 2,173 words — the equivalent of a John Dos Passos novel in the cramped spaces of a modern tabloid newspaper — it sums up the cycle of binge and purge, both physical and emotional, throughout Oprah's career, and its centrality to the phenomenon of what writer Maureen Callahan quite accurately calls "America's most prominent secular spiritual leader," albeit one who, earlier this month, aired a confessional episode of her daytime talk show expressing her mortification that she'd ballooned back to over 200 pounds.

Callahan interprets Oprah's crisis as a metaphor for America's economic crisis — "A nation that spends more money than it has may face a depression, much in the way that a person who consumes more calories than she expends might, too," she writes — but this sociological party trick is getting a little tired by now.

Callahan wonders aloud whether Oprah's success comes more from moulding the culture to reflect herself or from being the quickest to react to its nascent trends. And while there's nothing trailblazing about being an overweight American, there are few people who can enlist a support group as influential — or unusual — as Oprah's.

Jennifer Harris, the author of The Oprah Phenomenon, wonders that she's "always said that you can't depend on others for your happiness, not letting others define you … Meanwhile she's surrounded by all these people telling her she needs to control her authentic self, as if it's an unruly child." Callahan goes on to describe "the soldiers in Oprah's army of self-help: Dr. Phil McGraw, overweight author of diet books and unlicensed TV therapist; Eckhart Tolle, who speaks of the 'pain body' and charges $40-$150 a pop for lecture tickets … and Marianne Williamson, who had as a mentor a spirit named 'Seth,' channeled via a psychic."

The good news is that, if you're moved to explore this further, a book has recently been published — Oprah Winfrey And The Glamour Of Misery, by "Oprah scholar" Eva Illouz — and that hatchet-job biographer Kitty Kelley has a book on Oprah coming out next year, which promises to bring the sordid big time.

Like a baseball stats book, these books are products of an ancillary industry that makes actually consuming a game or a show entirely beside the point.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television.

critics' corner

Hell's Kitchen
Sharp-tongued chef Gordon Ramsay slices and dices another batch of contestants in a new season of the restaurant reality series. All the competitors love to cook, but the one who wins a chance to run his or her own eatery will be the one who can stand being repeatedly raked over the coals by the inimitable Ramsay. They don't call this show "Hell's Kitchen" for nothing. 9 PM on 36 FOX

Doc Zone
Now this is a cold war. The new documentary "Battle for the Arctic" details the competition between Canada and Russia for the rights to the resources of the world's northernmmost territory. With rich reserves of oil and gas, the stakes are high. Russia has planted a flag on the ocean floor, a symbolic gesture, while Canada is going with a real one: a military base in Resolute Bay. 9 PM on 8 CBC

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	news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour Jimmy Carter.		CBC News: The National		Doc Zone: Fidel Castro		National
		500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	sports	406	417	27	net	Heads-Up Poker Champ.		World Combat	UFC Primetime	Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
		126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at Florida Panthers. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre
		410	403	52	SCR	Score on NFL	Cabby Unlimit	NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Orlando Magic. (Live)					NBA Basketball: Spurs at Suns	
		411	457	56	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman
		417	406	59	SC	NASCAR Pre.	Pass Time (N)	Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out		Wrecked	Wrecked	NASCAR Pre.
	family	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Misadventures	Futurama	The Critic	Robot Chicken	Undergrads
		557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
		551	542	65	YTV	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	cable variety	570	580	29	MM	mmmtop	Back In	Storytellers Kid Rock. (N)		Celebrity Wrestling		Confessions of a Teen Idol		Listed
		615	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 Cabdriver.		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)		The Beast "Nadia" (N)		The Beast
		628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: NY (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		TNA iMPACT! (HDTV) (N)				CSI: NY
		521	560	34	TLC	Motorcycle Mania		Overhaulin' (HDTV)		Saw for Hire	Saw for Hire	Man Whose Arms Exploded		Saw for Hire
		145	761	35	TV5	Fourchette et sac à dos		Club social		Envoyé spécial			Cité guide	Journal TV5
		616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	*Beerfest* ★★ (2006, Comedy)		
		620	523	40	BVO	Camera	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		*Eighteen* (2004, Drama) Brendan Fletcher, Carly Pope.				Law & Order
		520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Apocalypse How End of the world.				MythBusters Sayings.		Daily Planet
		575	583	43	CMT	Top 20 Steamiest Video		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Cheerleaders
		601	562	45	SLC	Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	10 Pounds	Last 10	The Biggest Loser		ET Canada
		625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Gong Show	Daily Show
		294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*Panic Room* ★★★ (2002, Suspense)		
		600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos	Holmes-Homes
		627	528	50	SPC	Rabbit Fall	Rabbit Fall	Lost "Walkabout"		Star Trek: Voyager		Ghost Hunters International		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	53	MTV	Mom & Dad	After	MTV News	Cribs	The Real World		Bromance		MTV Live
		618	524	54	TROP	Make or Break	Naked Fashion	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married... With	Seinfeld
		522	506	55	HIS	NCIS		Lost Worlds Atlantis.		Deep Wreck Mysteries		NCIS		Ancestors
		129	773	60	CD	Biographies		Les Procureurs (HDTV)		Alliance meurtrière		Histoires de crimes		Catastrophe
		261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!	*Conrack* ★★★ (1974, Docudrama) Jon Voight, Paul Winfield.				Poltergeist
		602	567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	House	Maxed Out
		269	350	70	APTN	Suaangan	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	renegadepress	*True Heart* ★★ (1997, Adventure) Kirsten Dunst.				Rez Rides
		621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paparazzi Paparazzi.		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
		603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Family	Glutton-Punish.	Ace of Cakes

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Hannigan's food flip
After getting pregnant, Alyson Hannigan says she quit being vegan. "I basically went from being a vegan to ... now it's meat and cheese — and ginger ale," she told usmagazine.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Abdul pulls another diva act on Idol

PEOPLE Paula Abdul's wacky antics returned on Tuesday's American Idol episode, usmagazine.com reports.

Miffed because the other three judges didn't ask her what she thought of 19-year-old contestant Julissa Veloz, Abdul walked out of an audition in Jacksonville, Fla.

Simon Cowell and new judge Kara DioGuardi had just offered their critiques when Abdul interrupted, "OK, I guess my opinion doesn't matter. It's so funny because there's four judges ... sometimes we forget there's a fourth opinion in this room." She then walked off.

The contestant then followed Abdul and begged her to come back out.

"I can't do this, Julissa!" Abdul was overheard complaining. The contestant then tried reassuring Abdul: "It's OK, you've been doing this for eight seasons."

After some prodding, Abdul returned and voted Yes on sending Julissa to Hollywood.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jolie still friendly with ex hubby

RELATIONSHIP Angelina Jolie certainly seems to have mastered the stay-friends-with-your-ex technique, intouchweekly.com reports. Her second husband Billy Bob Thornton recently said that he'd love to work with his ex-wife again. "I'd like to do another movie with Angie, too, one of these days." The couple first worked together in the film Pushing Tin, back in 1999. Apparently, Angelina is also itching to work with Billy Bob. "We talk all the time," admitted Billy Bob. "She and I keep looking for something to do together; we just have to find the right thing."

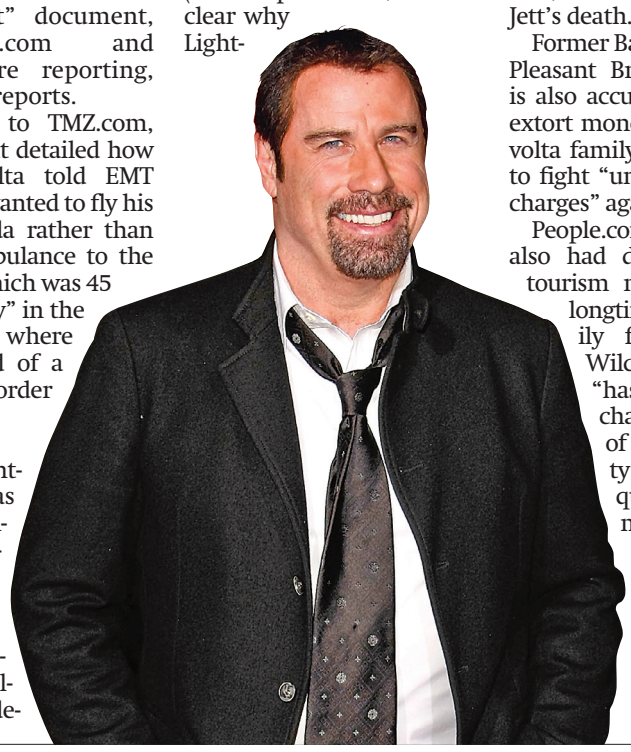
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Paper key in Travolta extortion case: Reports

DOCUMENT The item at the centre of the John Travolta extortion case: A "refusal to transport" document, RadarOnline.com and TMZ.com are reporting, people.com reports.

According to TMZ.com, the document detailed how "John Travolta told EMT workers he wanted to fly his son to Florida rather than drive by ambulance to the hospital ... which was 45 minutes away" in the Bahamas, where Jett, 16, died of a seizure disorder Jan. 2.

Paramedic Tarino Lightbourne was charged Monday with conspiracy to commit extortion and attempted extortion for allegedly demanding $25 million US to keep the document private. (As TMZ points out, it is unclear why Lightbourne thought the document was worth $25 million, as it was irrelevant to Jett's death.)



Former Bahamian senator Pleasant Bridgewater, who is also accused of trying to extort money from the Travolta family, said she plans to fight "untrue and unfair charges" against her.

People.com reports police also had detained former tourism minister — and longtime Travolta family friend — Obie Wilchcombe, but he "has not been charged," Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest told usmagazine.com. "He was not arrested; he was questioned on Friday."

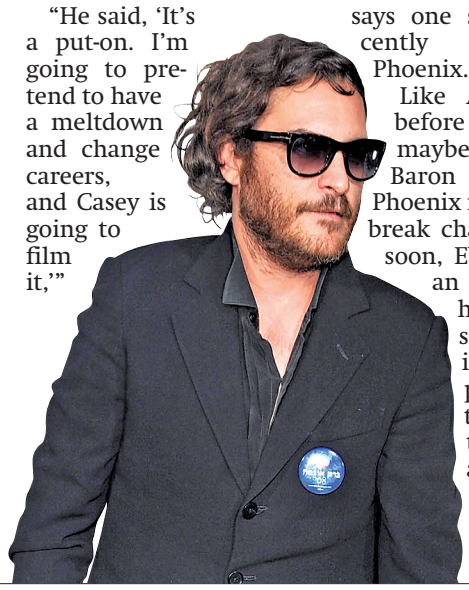
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Phoenix's rap act a hoax?

PEOPLE Joaquin Phoenix told the world he's quitting acting. Then he took to the stage in Vegas on Jan. 16 to debut his new career as a rapper. But people.com is wondering if it is all an elaborate hoax.

That's what Entertainment Weekly is also reporting. Sources tell the magazine's Hollywood Insider blog that Phoenix's bizarre career change, which Casey Affleck (who's married to Phoenix's sister Summer) has been filming, is a joke at the expense of the entertainment media and actors who take themselves too seriously.

"He said, 'It's a put-on. I'm going to pretend to have a meltdown and change careers, and Casey is going to film it,'"



says one source who recently worked with Phoenix.

Like Andy Kaufman before him — or maybe even Sacha Baron Cohen — Phoenix isn't expected to break character anytime soon, EW reports: "It's an art project for him," says a source. "He's going full out. He probably has told his reps that he's quit acting. Joaquin is very smart."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Harry lost love to distance, time

BREAKUP After five years of dating, what caused Prince Harry and girlfriend Chelsy Davy to finally call it quits last week? Those close to the prince believe time and distance may have pulled the 24-year-old royal and the Zimbabwean-born beauty apart, People magazine reports in its upcoming issue, on sale Friday.

Chelsy, 23, is set to graduate from Leeds University this spring and is homesick for Africa, while Harry seems more committed than ever to army life. When they split was announced, a royal source told People the pair felt their relationship "had run its course."

Still, the news came as a shock to some of Harry's friends. "I don't see this as long-term," a friend says of the couple, who broke up briefly in 2007.

Another pal, however, believes it's for real. "It came right out of the blue," he tells People. "But I don't think if he was madly in love with her, he would have knocked it on the head. I think it is a case of, 'Let's call it a day; we had some fun.'"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mom scared when Miley goes driving

DRIVING Miley Cyrus' mother is a "nervous wreck" when her daughter drives, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hannah Montana star recently passed her driving test, but admits her mom Leticia Finley is still scared to get in a vehicle if she is behind the wheel.

She said: "I'm a good driver but I make my mum a nervous wreck, which makes me nervous."

The 16-year-old star insists she can handle her car and is determined not to let her mother's anxiety get to her.

She said: "I love driving, and I'm pretty good at it — I really am!"

Cyrus drives a Porsche, but it was recently reported she hates being seen in the luxury motor as it used to belong to her mom. Explaining she would have preferred a brand new model, Miley said: "I do have a car. I took my mom's old car. I didn't get the one I wanted, but I got the old car which wasn't so bad because it was a Porsche. I suppose it was a pretty good hand-me-down."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Macca landed in 'dark place' after divorce

PEOPLE Paul McCartney has revealed his bitter divorce from Heather Mills took him to a "dark place," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Beatles singer — whose divorce from Heather was finalized last year — has described the pain he suffered during the split. The 66-year-old musician gave an honest account of the separation, saying: "I've been through a dark place."

McCartney — who has been dating U.S. heiress Nancy Shevell, 49, since November 2007 — explained his latest album Electronic Arguments, recorded as part of duo The Fireman, was heavily influenced by his failed marriage.

He said: "Love and light is mentioned a lot on the album. Parts of it are dark and edgy.

"It could be because I've been through a dark place. I am a man who needs love. Every man needs love, guys like romance. I do, anyway."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ashlee blasts critics for slamming Jessica's bod

RESPONSE Ashlee Simpson has blasted critics who attacked her sister Jessica's figure, femalefirst.co.uk.

The 24-year-old singer has defended her older sibling — who was photographed wearing unflattering high-waisted jeans at a recent Florida concert with a seemingly fuller figure — insisting the comments about Jessica's weight are "embarrassing and belittling."

She wrote on her blog: "I am completely disgusted. Since when did a woman's weight become newsworthy? How can we expect teenage girls to love and respect themselves in an environment where we criticize a size two figure?

"A week after the inauguration of U.S. President Barack Obama and with such a feeling of hope in the air for our country, I find it completely embarrassing and belittling to all women to read about a woman's weight or figure."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Weather Network
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Friday Flurries -6° / -19° 40%
Saturday Partly cloudy -11°/ -21°
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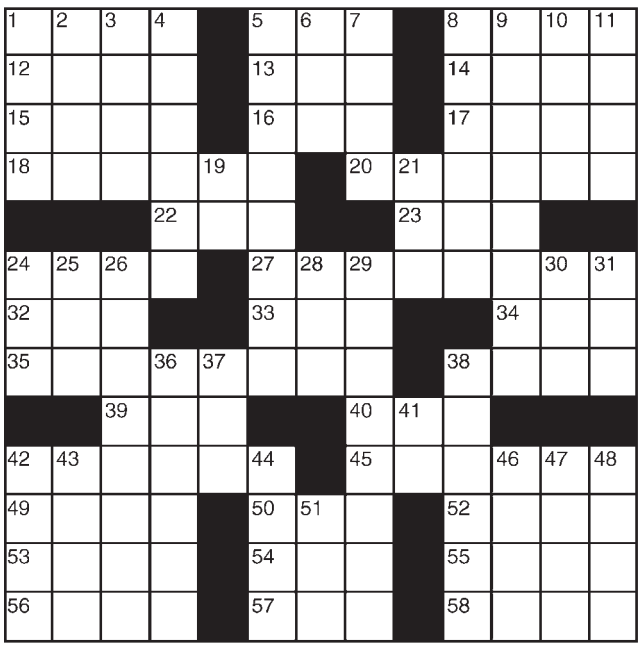
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Weaponry
5 "Roscoe"
8 Iolani Palace locale
12 Ayatollah's predecessor
13 Reproductive cells
14 Obnoxiously proper one
15 Gilpin of "Frasier"
16 Aviv lead-in
17 "— never work"
18 Jaundiced
20 Creepy —
22 Lennon's lady
23 Judge Lance
24 "That hurts!"
27 Administered
32 Dos Passos trilogy
33 "I told you so!"
34 Mauna —
35 Uncommunicative
38 Requests
39 Court
40 Knock ('em) dead
42 Disagreeing
45 Cantankerous
49 Big rig
50 Spring mo.
52 Hip bones
53 Tehran's country
54 Snitch
55 Void partner
56 Trig function
57 Blond shade
58 Mirth

Crossword down

1 Venomous vipers
2 Comic Caroline
3 Crumbly deposit
4 1862 battle site
5 Declined
6 "Hail, Caesar!"
7 Body powder
8 Narcotic
9 Museum pieces
10 Mound
11 Unattractive
19 Performing
21 Disencumber
24 "— Gang"
25 Work with
26 Gotham City villain
28 Still, in verse
29 After-taxes value
30 "A mouse!"
31 "— Kapital"
36 Cut aid
37 Massachusetts cape
38 Storefront canopy
41 On the other hand
42 Unrepaired
43 Garr or Hatcher
44 Poet Teasdale
46 Jewish month
47 Anger
48 Bulldogs' school
51 — de deux

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	3	7				5	6	
			3		2			
9	2			7			4	1
		1	9		7	6		
5								9
		2	1		5	4		
8	7			2			3	6
			6		1			
	1	6				8	9	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

A	F	A	R	■	S	O	B	■	A	R	E	A		
L	O	G	E	■	P	A	L	■	T	O	R	N		
M	O	U	S	S	A	K	A	■	L	U	S	T		
S	T	E	A	K	■	■	B	L	A	S	T	S		
■	■	■	L	I	A	R	■	A	S	S	■	■		
B	A	B	E	■	Q	U	A	D	■	E	B	B		
E	R	R	■	F	U	S	S	Y	■	A	I	L		
E	M	U	■	E	A	S	T	■	C	U	L	T		
■	■	S	A	M	■	E	A	C	H	■	■	■		
P	A	S	T	A	S	■	■	B	A	T	H	S		
O	R	E	O	■	P	R	U	S	S	I	A	N		
K	I	L	N	■	O	U	R	■	E	T	U	I		
E	A	S	E	■	T	E	N	■	D	O	L	T		

7	6	4	2	1	5	3	8	9
5	3	1	4	9	8	2	7	6
8	9	2	7	6	3	5	1	4
3	4	7	9	8	6	1	2	5
2	8	5	1	7	4	9	6	3
9	1	6	5	3	2	7	4	8
1	7	3	6	4	9	8	5	2
4	5	8	3	2	1	6	9	7
6	2	9	8	5	7	4	3	1

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Creole Veal Grillades

INGREDIENTS:
1 lb (500 g) boneless veal steak or pork tenderloin, 3/4 in (2 cm) thick and trimmed
1 tbsp (15 ml) vegetable oil
1 can (14 oz/392 g) low-sodium stewed tomatoes, undrained and cut up
1 medium yellow onion, sliced
2 yellow and/or green peppers, cut into thin strips
1 tbsp (15 ml) pickled jalapeno pepper, minced
2 cloves garlic, minced
1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) ground cayenne
3 cups (750 ml) low-sodium chicken broth
1 1/2 cup (375 ml) long-grain rice
4 medium-size scallions with tops, finely chopped
2 tbsp (25 ml) minced parsley

METHOD:
1. Cut veal into 8 pieces. Pound both sides until meat is 1/4 inch (0.5 cm) thick.
2. In nonstick skillet, heat oil over moderately high heat. Add 4 veal pieces and cook 1 to 2 minutes per side or until browned. Remove veal from skillet. Repeat with remaining meat.
3. Add tomatoes, onion, sweet peppers, jalapeno pepper, 1 garlic clove, 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt, and ground red pepper to skillet and stir. Return meat to skillet. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, 20 minutes or until meat is tender.
4. Meanwhile, in medium-size pot, bring broth to boil. Stir in rice, scallions and remaining garlic and salt. Cover tightly, reduce heat to low and simmer 20 minutes, until water is absorbed. Remove from heat and let stand, lid on, 2 minutes. Fluff with fork.
5. To serve, arrange meat on rice. Spoon tomato mixture over meat and rice. Sprinkle with parsley.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Take directions when changing your plans. Don't deal with other people's garbage. Something will be said that causes extreme disapproval.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A fiery debate makes you feel frisky. You'll get a thrill when reading someone's mind. Being with a compassionate person will be soothing.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Be the hero of a surprising story. Getting involved in an injustice will give you problems. A stranger will be too funny for words.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A down-to-earth approach will work out well. A gloomy dilemma benefits you. A thrilling predicament creates a diversion.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A man has to change tactics. A scandalous deed looks like more fun than it is. Avoid further contact with an unrequited lover.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A smiling man's erratic behaviour makes you lose focus. A suspicion is wrong because of misinformation. A traumatized person finds a way to escape.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Co-operate with a weirdo after a warning speech. An anxious person will make a leap of faith. You are no longer responsible for a sticky situation.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
One of your friends will finally get some work done. An alcoholic's secrecy will disturb a loved one. Remarkable news will lead to grief.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A new love is magnificent. Talking with a freeloader gives you problems. Someone is listening carefully to everything you say.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A sweetheart's cruelty is driven by creativity. Lift friendship to a new plane by sticking to the facts. A painful suggestion causes resistance.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
You'll be tough to beat in an argument. A smart person is interesting, but inhibiting. Somebody you love will get baffling news.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Fate looks kindly upon you. A disagreement results from a strange encounter. Someone's tedious rituals will displease you.

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110 Place D'Orleans Bld., Unit 290
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